

In recognition of his dedication and hard work on behalf of the housing industry, Mr. Hovnanian has received such coveted awards as the New Jersey Builders Association's "Builder of the Year Award," and is a member of the Hall of Fame.

His civic activities include the Presidency and Chairmanship of the Burlington County United Way, charter membership in the Mount Laurel Rotary, Executive Board Membership of the Boy Scouts of Burlington County, Founder of the Armenian Sisters Academy, a Montessori private school, and Jerry serves as Arch Deacon of St. Gregory's Armenian Church in Philadelphia.

A "golden" anniversary is an accomplishment to be celebrated, and I congratulate Mr. Hovnanian on his fifty years in the United States of America.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE SUN VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

#### HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 21, 1998*

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Sun Valley Chamber of Commerce, which is celebrating its 73rd year by gathering materials for a time capsule. I have been proud to represent Sun Valley for many years, and I am honored that the Chamber has asked me to contribute this Congressional Insert to the capsule.

It is only fitting that the Sun Valley Chamber of Commerce, one of the most historic organizations in the San Fernando Valley, is assembling a time capsule. The Chamber was formed in 1925 as the Roscoe Chamber of Commerce. One of the charter members was A. Louis Forsch, whose grandson, Gary, is still active in the Chamber today.

The Chamber shut down during the Depression and World War II, reopening in 1946. Within just a few years the Chamber was sponsoring parades, picnics and campaigns to beautify the community. In 1949, the Chamber spearheaded a successful drive to change the name of the area from Roscoe to Sun Valley. Three years later, Mrs. Florence Shea became the President of the Sun Valley Chamber of Commerce. According to the Chamber, Mrs. Shea was the first female president of any chamber in the United States.

Today the Chamber is a dynamic force in the San Fernando Valley. Along with providing essential help to local businesses and working closely with service agencies and government, the Chamber in recent years has been the driving force behind the huge and successful July 4 celebration at Hansen Dam.

I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting the Sun Valley Chamber of Commerce, which is doing its part to ensure that the history of the San Fernando Valley will be available to future generations. I only wish I could be around to witness the unveiling of the time capsule.

#### TRIBUTE TO JUDGE L.T. SIMES, II

#### HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 21, 1998*

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a wonderful man. The kind of man that made this country the great nation it is today. I honor L.T. Simes, II as he should be honored. Judge Simes is one of those pillars of the community that, works hard every day, plays by the rules and does whatever is necessary to make this community successful. Judge Simes is the first African-American to serve as Chairman of the Arkansas Soil and Water Commission. He is also owner of the first African-American owned and operated radio station in eastern Arkansas. Judge Simes is also the first African American Circuit Judge from Phillips County, Arkansas. It is his tireless work for the community and the fifteen years he has spent with the radio station encouraging young people, for which we take time today to say thank you. We all hope that his example of high standards and good conduct will be followed by the generations to come. His sense of fairness and honesty is exceeded only by his great, good humor. Let us today pay tribute to a friend, role model, community leader, father, and Christian whose standard we should all follow.

#### CALLING FOR THE INDICTMENT OF SLOBODAN MILOSEVIC

#### HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 21, 1998*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing today a resolution which states our belief that the Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic is responsible for war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide. The resolution also calls for action by our government—especially in providing information—that could lead to the indictment of Milosevic for these crimes by the International Criminal Tribunal in The Hague.

Those who have followed the course of Yugoslavia's violent disintegration know well how Slobodan Milosevic has stirred conflict in order to achieve, strengthen and maintain power during the early 1990s, the very years when all Europeans should have had the chance to celebrate newfound unity and freedom with the end of the Cold War and Communism's collapse. Threatened by democratic change, Milosevic played upon Serb grievance—some legitimate and some not—to encourage Serbs throughout former Yugoslavia to rally behind him and establish a "Greater Serbia." He engaged in massive propaganda campaigns, spurring Serbs to hate Croats, Bosniacs and Albanians, or at least to view these neighboring peoples as threats. He put thugs into positions of power, ensuring support for his rule and a willingness to engage in the repression and ethnic cleansing. He supplied militants with heavy weaponry with which to bombard cities, towns, and villages throughout the region.

In testimony before the Helsinki Commission, which I co-chair with the primary Senate

sponsor of this resolution, Alfonse D'Amato, many expert witnesses have testified to the deliberate nature of the attack on civilians in Croatia and in Bosnia. Mosques, hospitals, cultural institutions and even schools were specifically targeted for destruction. Intellectuals were targeted for incarceration and even execution. Women were targeted for the agony of being raped. Witnesses also told us of the systematic nature of the policy of ethnic cleansing. From valley to valley, region to region, the implementation of ethnic cleansing was so consistent that one can only conclude that it was directed and orchestrated by the political leaders.

There is only one person in such a position of power that he could have unleashed such devastation in Yugoslavia—Slobodan Milosevic. I believe that he is every bit as guilty of war crimes as the concentration camp guards, the snipers, and the rapists.

And now, Mr. Speaker, there is a new conflict in the former Yugoslavia, one in which Milosevic is again directly involved. In Kosovo, after years of repression of the largely Albanian population by Serbian authorities, there is now open conflict. With this conflict, innocent civilians are being killed, there are reports of detention centers, of rapes and the destruction of whole villages that indicate, at minimum, the open tolerance of such abuses by those in power in Belgrade, including Milosevic, if not the direction of such abuses. Last week we also received information indicating that distribution of basic food and humanitarian supplies has been hindered by Yugoslav and Serb officials. Mr. Speaker, using food as a weapon of war or intimidation can not be tolerated.

Of course, Mr. Milosevic remains in Belgrade, away from the scene of the crimes, and he denies association with those committing these crimes. He is a liar. In fact, he denied to me directly what I saw with my own eyes to be happening during the siege of Vukovar in Croatia. Unfortunately, he has escaped responsibility for the crimes by projecting himself as the "peacemaker", the one we supposedly need to achieve the Dayton Agreement which ended the Bosnian conflict, and the one with whom the Kosovar Albanians are being told to join at a negotiation table for dialogue. How many senior Administration officials have traveled repeatedly to Belgrade in order to cajole Milosevic to do this or to do that? He seems to be able to unravel progress if he wants. Does not our reliance on him as "peacemaker" help him maintain power at the expense of a democratic Serbia? Mr. Speaker, we can not overlook the criminal responsibility of a person like Milosevic, even when we find ourselves dependent on that person to implement policies the United States has set.

The resolution we are introducing does not address questions of United States policy towards Serbia; we plainly and simply call for justice. Mr. Speaker, I believe that indicating Milosevic is not only good justice; it is good policy. As long as Milosevic is in power in Belgrade and there is no democracy in Serbia, the Balkans will remain unstable. As long as we deal with Milosevic, we perpetuate his power.

I hope, Mr. Speaker, that this resolution will find broad, bipartisan support. I am pleased that I am joined by my colleagues Mr. HOYER, Mr. ROHRBACHER, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. KING, Mr.